Repair of railway tracks

431. SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY:
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government has allocated Rs. 32,000 crores for taking up repairs of railway tracks all over the country;

(b) if so, what is the total amount Railways have allocated from Railway Safety Fund and by the Prime Minister under the Rail Vikas Yojana; and

(c) whether the Railways have prepared a comprehensive report on all safety issues; if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) The allocation for track renewals is Rs. 7,670 crores in Railway Safety Fund. Under National Rail Vikas Yojana (NRVY), about Rs. 3,000 crores are expected to be spent on upgradation of track. However, the details of the works under NRVY are still being worked out.

(c) A high level committee called Railway Safety Review Committee (RSRC) under the Chairmanship of Justice H.R. Khanna set up in August 1998, has reviewed the safety performance of Indian Railways. The Committee's report contains 278 recommendations on various issues such as investment planning and policies, personnel matters, track and bridges, rolling stock, signalling and telecommunication, disaster management, safety organisation and matters concerning Commission of Railway Safety etc. Action to implement the accepted recommendations is under various stages depending upon availability of resources and success of trials, in some cases.

SRSF to prevent rail accidents

432. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Rs. 17,000 crore Special Railway Safety Fund was created on October, 1, 2001 for toning up railway safety measures including track renewal and upgradation and replacement of signalling equipment and rolling stock;